

Bridge End Cottage, Alwinton Design Statement

The proposed extension of Bridge End Cottage aims to release the potential in the existing building which is currently only usable as a one bedroom house. The proposals alter and extend the building to make it suitable for modern family living.

The extension is sited at the point on the site where it will have the least visual impact from the road.

The existing cottage is small in size and it is considered that, a 'matching' stone and slate addition would not be appropriate in this instance. Instead it is proposed that the best strategy and the most respectful to the existing building, is that of a separate, smaller bedroom extension in contrasting lightweight materials, with a neutral glazed link between the two.

The glazed link also offers the most efficient means of opening up the two existing spaces to the north of the property for bedroom use, whilst also connecting to a new master double bedroom.

The design is intended to read as a host building with a separate 'outhouse' – a reference to a common historical but enduring local typology - many local buildings have a separate timber structure adjacent to the main house. The design is a contemporary interpretation of this relationship.

The form of the timber bedroom element of the extension matches the proportions of the cottage's gable end elevation whilst having lower eaves and roof apex heights to ensure subservience to the original cottage. The extension does not seek to mirror the elegant detailing of the existing building, however: The water table and carved ashlar stone detailing of the stone cottage is replaced with flush eaves and concealed gutters for maximum simplicity – a further display of subservience to the host building.

The extension is therefore intended not as a modern version of its old host, but as a contemporary yet pared down and respectful counterpoint to it. Lightweight materials are seen as the ideal foil to the heavy masonry cottage.

Whilst the extension proposes the use of materials not displayed on the host building, the chosen palette is one that is at home in its context.



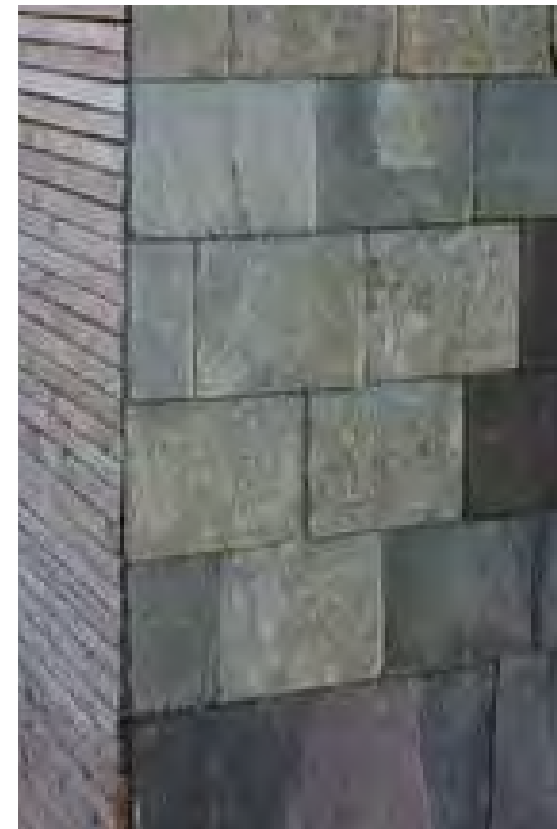
precedent: Interior



precedent: Vertical timber cladding and anthracite grey aluminium window



precedent: Vertical timber cladding



precedent: Slate shingle cladding